



COOK COUNTY HEALTH

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REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Employee Recognition

Becoming a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) requires a nurse to complete extensive training. It is only after a nurse completes 40 hours of didactic training and a year of clinicals that they can submit an application to the Illinois Attorney General to be certified as a SANE nurse. Recently, Cook County Health had its first two nurses, **Tracey Ross** and **Nicole Mattes**, receive their SANE certification.

Recently, The Joint Commission certified John H. Stroger, Jr., Hospital of Cook County as an Advanced Primary Stroke Center. Congratulations to the CCH neurology and regulatory teams, including **Dr. Lakshmi Warrior**, Chair of Neurology; **Sonya Watkins**, Director of Regulatory Affairs and Accreditation; and attending physician **Dr. Peter Egofske** for all your hard work on this achievement, reflecting the high-quality care CCH provides.

CCH has been awarded \$750,000 by the Office for Victims of Crime to help combat child abuse and neglect. In Cook County alone, 25,918 cases of child abuse and neglect were reported for fiscal year 2019. Thank you to **Dr. Marjorie Fujara**, Chair of Child and Family Wellness for CCH, and **Margo Chavez-Easley**, a child and family wellness social worker, for recognizing the urgency of this issue and leading this grant effort.

Dr. Gail Floyd, Program Director for CCH's family medicine residency program, was one of four honored with the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians 2019 President's Award, their highest honor, on October 19. The award is given at the discretion of the president to honor individuals or organizations that have contributed to the mission of the IAFP of promoting the value of the specialty of Family Medicine and improving health for all through advocacy, education and action.

The American College of Physicians has announced **Dr. Franklin Saksena**, a voluntary attending physician at CCH, as the winner of their Outstanding Volunteer Clinical Teacher Award. During his time at CCH, Dr. Saksena served as an attending on the medical wards and cardiology clinical services and taught students, residents and fellows from 1973 to 2005; he also authored several cardiology textbooks and papers. Since his retirement, Dr. Saksena has diligently spent every week at CCH to teach and lecture medical students, residents and fellows on his experience in cardiology and relevant case studies over the course of several decades in medicine.

CCH trauma program coordinator **Justin Mis** has been selected as the 2020 Nurse Fellow for Society of Trauma Nurses (STN) and the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma (EAST). Justin was nominated by his one of his peers for his work at CCH and will be acknowledged at a reception on January 16, 2020.

Congratulations to **Tony Leung**, assistant director of pharmacy for CCH, and his pharmacy students **Stefanie Colyer** and **Svetozara Zehireva**, on their manuscript titled "An Outcome Study on Naloxone Education / Dispensing Program for Departure Patients" that has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Correctional Health Care*. The manuscript is tentatively scheduled to appear in the Journal's July 2021 publication and details the study's positive outcomes with dispensing naloxone to patients upon release from the Cook County Jail.

CCH is expanding their efforts to reduce the cycle of incarceration for individuals with mental illness or substance use disorder in Cook County through Category 3 funding for the Justice and Mental Health Collaborative grant. CCH and its partners propose an evaluation and strategic expansion of the misdemeanor diversion court program to other branch courts, thereby safely diverting more people from unnecessary incarceration and enhancing linkage to services at these critical intercepts. To assist with this initiative, the Department of Justice has awarded CCH \$750,000 for three years. Thank you to Office of Programmatic Services and Innovation Team of **Leticia Reyes-Nash**, **Whitney Towey** and **Kelsey Moore**, as well as **Dr. Diane Washington**, executive director of behavioral health.

Activities and Announcements

The Illinois Health Facilities Services Review Board **officially and unanimously approved Cook County Health's Certificate of Need application for a new inpatient and outpatient facility to modernize Provident Hospital**. The new facility will include a smaller replacement hospital with 42 medical/surgical beds and 6 ICU beds; 8 operating suites as well as 70 outpatient exam rooms for the provision of comprehensive outpatient primary and specialty care, laboratory, diagnostic, dental, behavioral health and pharmacy services. A comprehensive emergency department with 18 bays is also planned. We expect that the new facility will reduce the number of Provident patients having to travel to the Stroger campus for services not currently provided at Provident. CCH hopes to open the new hospital in 2023.

MoreCare, a new Medicare Advantage health plan, has partnered with CCH to bring more coordinated, individualized care to Medicare-eligible persons in Cook County. With more than 14,000 patients aging into Medicare each year, CCH will be the provider of a continuum of care to patients, like those currently served by CountyCare, looking for Medicare coverage. MoreCare brings a unique, coordinated approach to healthcare, making it easier for Medicare-eligible patients to get the quality, whole person care they deserve. The new Medicare Advantage health plan will offer four products including a traditional Medicare Advantage Plan with Prescription Drugs, a chronic condition special needs (C-SNP) plan for Medicare-eligible Cook County residents with a positive diagnosis of HIV (HIV-SNP) and an institutional special needs plan (I-SNP) for Cook County residents living in a long term care facility. The MoreCare HIV-SNP will be the first HIV-specific C-SNP offered in Cook County. MoreCare began enrolling members on October 15 for coverage starting January 1, 2020.

Recently, the **American Heart Association** awarded CCH with the **2019 Mission Lifeline Silver Receiving** and the **2019 Get with the Guidelines® Heart Failure Bronze quality achievement awards**. The Mission Lifeline Silver Receiving quality achievement is awarded for implementing specific quality improvement measures outlined by the American Heart Association for the treatment of patients who suffer severe heart attacks. To earn the award, CCH met specific criteria and standards of performance for quick and appropriate treatment through emergency procedures to re-establish blood flow to blocked arteries in heart attack patients coming into the hospital directly or by transfer from another facility. The Get with

the Guidelines® Heart Failure Bronze award recognizes CCH's commitment to ensuring heart failure patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines. The goal is to speed up recovery and reduce hospital readmissions for heart failure patients. As we continue to advance the care at CCH, our Cardiology Team is an integral part of this mission to ensuring high quality cardiac care for all of Cook County.

The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) released their 2019-2020 Health Insurance Plan Ratings, ranking **Cook County Health's Medicaid managed care plan, CountyCare, as one of the top-rated Medicaid plans in Illinois**. Plans are scored on a scale of 0 to 5, with ratings measuring quality of care and patient satisfaction. Overall, CountyCare tied for the top rating in Illinois, with a score of 3.5. CountyCare also scored the highest in the state for preventive care and treatment and tied for second for consumer experience.

On October 16 and 24, CCH hosted **Community Forums on Trauma and Stop the Bleed Trainings** to showcase the work done by the system's Trauma Unit and provide training to members of the community. The Trauma Unit, which is one of the busiest in the nation, has been caring for the residents of Cook County for more than 50 years. The Stop the Bleed course, held by CCH clinical staff, teaches people how to control bleeding until emergency services arrive. This training provides participants with tools that can make the difference between life and death. The Forums on Trauma offer members of the community the chance to learn more about what our trauma team does both inside and outside the hospital, including groundbreaking research.

CCH hosted its **12th Annual Breast Cancer Survivor Gala** on October 18. Survivors and patients currently undergoing treatment gathered together for music, dance and educational panels. Altogether, more than 150 people attended.

Upcoming Events

Dr. Jay Shannon, CEO of CCH, will speak at the **Civic Federation** on Friday, October 25. The Civic Federation is an independent, non-partisan government research organization that provides analysis and recommendations on government finance issues for the Chicago region and State of Illinois.

On Monday, October 28, **Dr. Jay Shannon** will speak at the **City Club of Chicago**. The City Club of Chicago is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, whose goal is to provide a forum for the discussion of civic and public affairs in Chicago, the metropolitan area and the State of Illinois.

The **Cook County Health Foundation Associate Board** is holding **A Night Out for County Health** on Friday, November 8, 6-9pm at mHUB, 965 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago. All proceeds benefit The Cook County Health Foundation's work to address the social determinants of health around healthy food access.

Legislative Update

Local

Through October 14, CCH's Fresh Truck partnership with the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD) has resulted in 217 visits to 13 CCH health centers – Arlington Heights, Austin, Cicero, the CORE Center, Cottage Grove, Englewood, Logan Square, Near South, Oak Forest, Provident/Sengstacke, Prieto, Robbins, and Woodlawn.

Collectively, the Fresh Truck distributions have resulted in the provision of fresh fruits and vegetables to 28,716 individuals, representing 95,504 household members, totaling more than 580,000 pounds of fresh produce. Most of the individuals benefiting from the Fresh Truck screened positive for food insecurity at a CCH health center visit.

- The Fresh Market schedule is listed below, note updated dates and times:
 - Oak Forest Health Center on Wednesdays, 9am-2pm
 - Robbins Health Center on Thursdays, 11am-3pm
 - Cottage Grove Health Center on Fridays, 9am-2pm

Fresh produce is supplied by Black Oaks Center, a nonprofit that seeks to create a just, holistic, and local food system through education, entrepreneurship, and access to healthy, affordable foods. CCH partners with Experimental Station's Link Up Illinois Link Match program to offer SNAP users a match on all purchases at CCH Fresh Markets, up to \$20/market/week.

- On October 23 the Cook County Health & Hospitals Committee met to consider Impact 2023, CCH's strategic plan. Dr. Shannon provided an overview of the plan and responded to questions from Commissioners. The plan was approved unanimously.
- The Cook County Finance Committee has scheduled Departmental Review Hearings on the fiscal year 2020 Executive Budget Recommendation beginning the week of October 28. CCH is scheduled to appear before the committee on October 29.

State

- The Illinois General Assembly is scheduled to return to Springfield October 28-30 and November 12-14 for the Fall Veto Session. Legislation related to ethylene oxide along with cleanup/trailer bills concerning adult use cannabis and gaming are expected to be debated.
- The schedule for the 2020 Spring Session legislative session has yet to be announced, but will likely start in mid-January 2020 and run through May 31.
- The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) announced that they would be delaying the start of mandatory Medicaid managed care enrollment for Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) youth in care and former youth in care, as well as CORE children managed by the Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC), until February 1, 2020 (from the original start date of November 1, 2019).

Current DCFS youth in care will be auto-assigned to IlliniCare with no other managed care plan option; former DCFS youth in care will be auto-assigned to IlliniCare, but will be allowed to choose

another plan if they want to switch; and DSCC CORE children will be provided with a choice period and then auto-assigned to a plan if they do not make a choice.

Federal

- **Continuing Resolution** – Before going out on a two-week recess at the end of September, Congress passed a short-term continuing resolution (CR) to fund the government after the beginning of the new federal fiscal year (FY) on October 1. The CR expires November 21 at midnight. The CR includes a short-term delay of the statutory Medicaid DSH cuts, which were scheduled to begin October 1.

Congressional leaders and appropriators are currently working to negotiate a path forward for the 12 appropriations bills, including the Labor-HHS-Education bill, which is considered one of the most controversial.

- **Prescription Drug Pricing** – On October 17, HR 3, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act, developed by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was passed out of the Energy and Commerce and Education and Labor committees on party line votes. The bill would allow Medicare to negotiate the prices of at least 25 of the most expensive drugs with drug makers. Before going to markup committee leaders introduced an amended version that struck a provision that could have limited the ability of 340B covered entities to get 340B discounts for negotiated drugs and rejected efforts to add restrictions during the markup. The House Ways and Means Committee also plans to markup the bill and leadership plans to take it to the floor for consideration before the end of October.

The Senate Finance Committee has approved a narrower bipartisan package which focuses on capping Medicare costs for seniors. While the Senate will not take up HR 3, House leaders' goal is to put down a marker in the event that the Senate does pass its bill.

Meanwhile, a bipartisan group of House moderates met with Administration officials as well as a handful of Senate moderates to discuss drug pricing legislation, with a view to finding compromise. House leadership staff have suggested that the savings from this bill – which the Congressional Budget Office estimates could be more than \$300 billion over ten years – could be used as an offset for health care priorities, including the Medicaid DSH cut delay.

- **Texas, et al. v. Azar** – As the US Appeals Court for the Fifth Circuit deliberates on the appeal of Texas, et al. v. Azar, the White House signaled that it is no longer planning to roll out a major replacement plan, prior to the November elections. Health & Human Services (HHS) Secretary Azar has said that instead, the department will focus on promoting alternative policies that they have already rolled out, including short-term plans. Meanwhile the conservative House Republican Study Committee has announced that it plans to publish a detailed health plan on October 22 that House conservatives can promote on the campaign trail. With a divided Congress and the lawsuit winding its way towards the Supreme Court, nothing is likely to change until after the 2020 elections.
- **Public Charge** – To date, five federal courts have issued decisions that blocked the new public charge rule from taking effect on October 15, 2019. This includes a lawsuit filed in the Northern District of Illinois where Cook County participated as a plaintiff. The Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights was also part of this lawsuit, which was represented by the Cook County State's Attorney Office, the Shriver Center on Poverty Law, Legal Council for Health Justice, and several firms serving in a pro bono capacity. The Trump Administration is expected to appeal these

decisions and the court orders could be overturned at a future date. The issue is ultimately likely to be decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.

CCH hosted two public charge trainings for our staff delivered by attorneys from the Shriver Center on Poverty Law and Legal Council for Health Justice. A total of 118 CCH staff participated in the trainings. A one-page flyer for patients, available in English and Spanish, is posted to the CCH website and a one-page info sheet for staff is posted on the CCH Intranet.

Protection of Medicaid remains a key priority for CCH at both the State and Federal level.

Community Outreach

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| November 1 | CountyCare promotion at Riveredge Hospital's 13th Annual Resource Fair , which takes place at the hospital located at 8311 W Roosevelt Rd. in Forest Park. |
| November 2 | Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the Chicago Heights Public Library's 1st Annual Day of the Dead Celebration which takes place at the library located at 25 W. 15 th St. in Chicago Heights. |
| November 2 | Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force's Beyond October Future Forward which takes place at Illinois Institute of Technology located at 3214 S. Federal St. in Chicago. |
| November 6 | Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the Malcolm X College Free Service Days , which is hosted by its Wellness Center and takes place in the college located at 1900 W. Jackson Blvd in Chicago. |
| November 9 | Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the Sisters Working It Out's 5th Annual Day of Beauty which takes place at Liberty Temple Full Gospel Church located at 2233 W. 79th St. in Chicago. The 5th Annual Day of Beauty celebrates cancer survivors and will have seminars that discuss financial resources, strategies on how to speak with health care providers about what's important to them in treatment and other topics. |
| November 23 | Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the Community Health and Information Fair hosted by Cook County Commissioner Bridget Degnen, Alderman Rossana Rodriguez-Sanchez, Alderman Samantha Nugent, Alderman Andre Vazquez, and State Representative Jaime Andrade which takes place at Northside College Prep located at 5501 N. Kedzie Ave. in Chicago. |
| November 23 | Cook County Health and CountyCare promotion at the BCBS Community Care Fair which takes place at the Blue Door Neighborhood Center located at 756 E 111th St. in Chicago. |

The quarterly **Advisory Council meetings** for the following health centers will take place this month:

- November 19 – **Robbins Health Center** – 13450 S. Kedzie Ave., Robbins, IL 60472

- November 20 – **Arlington Heights Health Center** – 3250 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Suite 300, Arlington Heights, IL 60004

The **GCFD Fresh Food Truck** visits for the month of November include the following ACHN Health Centers.

- November 7 – **Prieto Health Center** – 2424 S. Pulaski Rd., Chicago, IL 60623
- November 12 – **Provident Hospital/Sengstacke Health Center** – 500 W. 51st St., Chicago, IL 60615
- November 19 – **Woodlawn Health Center** – 6337 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, IL 60634
- November 15 – **CORE Center** – 2020 W. Harrison St., Chicago, IL 60612
- November 21 – **Arlington Heights Health Center** – 3250 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60004
- November 22 – **Oak Forest Health Center** - 15900 S. Cicero Ave. Oak Forest, IL 60452
- November 26 – **Logan Square Health Center** - 2840 W. Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, IL 60647

Cook County is holding **public hearings on the fiscal year 2020 Executive Budget Recommendation**. Cook County Health and CountyCare partners usually attend these hearings to provide testimonials in support of the System's budget.

- **October 28, 2019 (Evening)**
Location: Second District Courthouse, 5600 Old Orchard Rd., **Skokie**, IL 60077
When: 6:30pm
- **October 30, 2019 (Evening)**
Location: Fourth District Courthouse, 1500 S. Maybrook Dr., **Maywood**, IL 60602
When: 6:30pm
- **November 4, 2019 (Morning)**
Location: 118 N. Clark St., County Board Room - Rm 569, **Chicago**, IL 60602
When: 10:30am
- **November 4, 2019 (Evening)**
Location: Sixth District Courthouse, 16501 S. Kedzie Ave., **Markham**, IL 60428
When: 6:30pm